

### REMARKS

In the Office Action dated February 23, 2005, claim 46 was objected to; claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, 11-17, 21-23, 25-30, 32, 39-41, and 44-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0040883 (Chang); claims 18-20 were rejected under § 103 over Chang in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0062274 (Hakansson); and claims 33-38, and 51 were rejected under § 103 over Chang.

Claim 46 was also objected to due to an informality. It is respectfully submitted that the language in line 6 of claim 46 is correct. The language at lines 6-7 of claim 46 recites "allocate a channel portion assigned to the first mobile station to a second mobile station." This language indicates that a channel portion assigned to the first mobile station is allocated to a second mobile station. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In the present Office Action, the previously submitted Information Disclosure Statement (submitted with the previous Reply to Office Action) was not initialed by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted with the previous Reply to Office Action be sent to the Applicant. A copy of the previously submitted Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449, along with a copy of the postcard indicating receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449, is submitted herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claim 1 is not disclosed by Chang. Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, receiving a request that contains *a coded version* of an identifier associated with the first mobile station. The Office Action identified paragraphs [0189] and [0308] of Chang as teaching such a request containing a coded version of an identifier. Paragraph [0189] of Chang describes an access request identifier (ARI) that is assigned to each mobile station, where the ARI is included in the access burst to enable the network to perform contention resolution immediately rather than waiting for contention resolution procedures on a traffic channel. Paragraph [0308] of Chang refers to an Assign UTCH message that is used to allocate a UTCH (uplink traffic channel) for a specified TBF (identified by TBFI). Paragraph [0308] of Chang also mentions that the ARI field is included for fast contention resolution. The content of the Assign UTCH message is depicted in Fig. 9, which depicts the ARI and TBFI as being separate information elements that are part of the Assign UTCH message. There is no

indication whatsoever that the combination of ARI and TBFI is considered a *coded version* of the TBFI. The position taken in the Office Action that the ARI and TBFI together form a coded version of the TBFI relies upon an unreasonable construction of the term “coded version.”

To improve form, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the coded version of the identifier is based on application of coding to the identifier according to a coding scheme. The ARI and TBFI are clearly not derived based on application of coding to the TBFI in Chang. Note that although the element has been added to claim 1, this amendment was *not* made for reasons pertaining to patentability, since claim 1 without the amendment is allowable over Chang. The element added to claim 1 is provided merely to improve the form of claim 1.

Independent claims 13, 21, 33, and 46 are similarly allowable over Chang.

Applicant acknowledges the indication that claims 10, 31, and 52 would be allowable if amended into independent form. Claims 10, 31, and 52 have been amended into independent form, with their scope remaining *unchanged*, to place the claims in condition for allowance. A minor amendment was made to line 6 of claim 31 to add “portion” after “wireless channel” to improve form. This amendment does not change the scope of claim 31.

Independent claim 45 has been amended to incorporate subject matter indicated as being allowable in claims 10, 31, and 52. Therefore, claim 45 is in condition for allowance.

In the statement of allowability in the Office Action (at page 24), the Examiner noted that claims 10, 31, and 52 recite a “joint detector.” It is noted that the term “joint detector” is not recited in claim 10, and thus should not be read as a limitation of claim 10. Also, in claim 52, the term “joint” was not used, and thus should not be read as being part of claim 52.

Independent claim 17 was rejected as being anticipated by Chang. Applicant respectfully disagrees, as Chang does not teach sending an assignment message that comprises a plural-burst assignment message. The Office Action cited to paragraph [0217] of Chang as teaching a plural-burst assignment message. Paragraph [0217] of Chang refers to multiple sequences of burst-based assignment/acknowledgment. This paragraph of Chang does not refer to an assignment message that is a plural-burst assignment message. In fact, Chang explicitly states that *all* fast access, assignment, and acknowledgment channels use single-burst messages. Chang, ¶ [0187]. Paragraph [0189] of Chang also refers to a “single burst” assignment message. Paragraph [0227] of Chang refers to the fast assignment channel (FASSCH) as being designed to

transmit "single burst" assignment and termination messages. In view of the above, it is clear that Chang teaches single-burst assignment messages, not plural-burst assignment messages. Therefore, claim 17 is not disclosed by Chang.

All dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as corresponding independent claims. In view of the allowability of the base claims, it is respectfully submitted that the obviousness rejections of the dependent claims have been overcome.

Allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (NRT.0070US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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